

Travelling to Tasmania

Border restrictions have changed for Tasmanians returning to from Victoria due to the current outbreak of COVID-19 in Victoria.

I fully appreciate how difficult this news is for so many Tasmanian families who have loved ones in Victoria who were planning to come home, expecting restrictions to ease. I as much as anyone am feeling the sadness with three of my children, their partners and three grandchildren, including one born just this week who I will not be able to visit as planned.



Let's all make an effort to reach out to our family and friends in Victoria. Organise a zoom catch-up or send them a good book or jigsaw to help them cope with a second lockdown. We must do all we can to support our northern neighbours and avoid an outbreak here in Tassie.

I also feel for all Victorians who have to deal with another lockdown and unfortunately be the focus of much attention – including unkind and divisive comments – we know what it is like here in North West Tasmania how challenging it is facing an outbreak. Let's be kind and avoid unhelpful comment.



See next page for new restrictions:

As of today July 9 the following rules are in place:

Visitors to Tasmania from Victoria, or who have spent time in Victoria in the last 14 days, will be turned back.

Residents of Tasmania returning from Victoria are now required to **quarantine in government provided accommodation** rather than at their Tasmanian residence. This includes fly in, fly out (FIFO) workers.



Exemptions for Essential Workers

There are exemptions for Essential Travellers who have specialist skills, who can apply to come to Tasmania for a specific purpose. These applications will be assessed by the State Controller.

Essential Travellers (Specified Persons) from Victoria, will still be able to apply to travel to Tasmania for a specified purpose. This is a category of people delivering time critical functions and services to support the Tasmanian community, from health care workers to freight and logistics, and need to be approved by the State Controller.



Any person granted Essential Traveller status who has spent time in Victoria in the 14 days prior to travel will be required to wear a face mask and limit their movement when not in the workplace.

Compassionate Exemptions:

Sadly, in the short term at least, applications to travel to Tasmania from Victoria for compassionate reasons are **not** likely to be granted. These can be applied for here: <https://dpiwwe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/biosecurity/biosecurity-forms/application-for-classification-as-an-essential-traveller-on-compassionate-grounds> but please be aware these are unlikely to be approved.

For people travelling to Tasmania from a State other than Victoria:

At this stage, people from **other states** can transit through a Victorian airport or port, as long as they travel directly to their destination with no stops, except to get fuel. Other current quarantine arrangements remain in place, such as isolating at home if you are a resident of Tasmania, or government provided accommodation if not. It is likely you will be required to wear a mask during transit.

More detailed information is available here:

<https://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/travellers-and-visitors/coming-to-tasmania>